

LOCALS.

Tom Steele paid a flying visit to University Station on Friday.

W. A. Graham spent Saturday and Sunday in Hillsboro and Raleigh.

Messrs. Hugh Atkinson and R. E. Lee has been initiated into Theta Nu Epsilon.

Mr. T. B. Lee has been confined to his room for a day or two with "la grippe."

Miss Nannie Craige has been on the Hill on a visit to Miss Ette Mangum since Friday.

Dr. Winston and Dr. Manning attended the meeting of the Trustees in Raleigh on the 23rd.

At the symposium.

Say boys, hic. Does "Sporty" room diagonally across here or octagonally?

Prof. A.—Mr. Toms do you know what an angel is?

Mr. T—No sir, but I got a picture last night that gave me a right good idea.

Messrs. Hartsell, Green, Woodward and Roundtree, of Trinity College were on the Hill on Thursday and Friday, as guests of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER PUBLISHED BY REQUEST.

It seems from the last issue of the TAR HEEL that the same old U. N. C. failing, listlessness and inexcusable laziness coupled with an inordinate conceit that our teams can win without half trying, has made its annual appearance.

I believe every alumnus puts more store by the Virginia game than all the rest put together. It is the loss or victory in that game which is the criterion of the season. That game will always be close, so close, indeed, that every little detail will count in the score. To acquire the ability in every detail, calls not only for a thorough understanding of the game, but the most earnest and persistent work. It is a duty that every aspirant for the team owes to himself and his Alma Mater. He is very dense who cannot profit by the experience of others and above all by his own. In '91, when the nine danced until two o'clock the night before the game, and suffered a most humiliating defeat at the hands of Wake Forest, we learned a valuable lesson. In my opinion the lesson learned last spring by the defeat from Vir-

ginia, ought to have great influence on this year's team.

In that game sixteen Virginians struck out. We made twice as many hits and one error less. Twice we filled the bases with no one out, and twice we had men on second and third with only one out. Of those ten chances when a single hit would have scored two runs, we failed to get it. The popular opinion was that our defeat was due to "hard, hard luck."

He is a poor ball player who places the defeat on luck alone. I would like to ask those who saw the game, do they remember; when, after the base-runner got back to first safely, he got off the bag, some six feet in foul ground, when Smith had the ball? And Devin followed with a hit, and Gray a three bagger? One run thrown away. When a long fly was hit to right and the runner on third stood half way down the line and watched Rhett catch it? Another run lost.

When a runner trying to come home on a sacrifice, stopped ten feet from the plate to see where the ball was, and was put out by the closest possible decision.

One more run lost.

When Virginia had men on second and third, and the ball was hit to short and thrown to first just too late to catch the batter, how Devin held the ball and discussed the decision with the umpire and the batter, while the man from second scored?

One run given to Virginia.

Adding and subtracting 2 plus 3 and 5 minus 1 gives N. C. 5, Virginia 4, which our batting, untimely as it was, ought to have netted.

Can any one who watched the practice games last year and saw the listless, lazy base-running and the loose indifferent coaching, fail to see that that game was lost a month before it was played? Can any one who saw our otherwise excellent first baseman walk after an overthrown ball in the practice games or wait on his bag until one of the crowd threw it to him, want any better reason for his blunder in the big game?

Will the team this year, learn the lesson? If they do, it is worth the defeat. Do they realize, as the lesson teaches, that the play in a game will be like the practice? A lazy practice and a sharp game are impossibilities. And, also, that no department of the game can be slighted; that those who fail to study and

practice base-running and say "Oh, I can do it when the time comes," either haven't the nerve to slide or the understanding to realize that they will be found wanting when the opportunity comes. To my mind, nothing calls for the earnestness and capabilities of a ball player, or for a more thorough knowledge of the game than good base-running, and when you find a team that runs bases well, you will find them good and lively in other respects, with plenty of team-work.

G. R. Little, captain of next year's football team has already started training candidates. This is a move in the right direction and we hope that his efforts may not be in vain. If a man wants to make the team next year, now is the time to become familiar with the duties of his position, and to get the bodily training as well without which he can have no hope.

By this means if the candidates do faithful work the team should get into shape at least three weeks sooner than it has done hitherto, and that's a long time in the football season.

We trust that Prof. Cobb's efforts to persuade Dr. Walcott, a noted American geologist, to lecture before the Mitchell will be successful. All students interested in science, and many given more to literary tastes will be only too pleased to have the treat.

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